

Request for Public Participation Grants



Application Announcement

Individuals and nonprofit organizations based in Washington State are invited to apply for competitive Public Participation Grants up to \$60,000 a year from Washington State's Department of Ecology.

The purpose of these grants is to facilitate public involvement in the formal cleanup of contaminated sites and improve the public's waste management practices. These grants support the State's Solid and Hazardous Waste Management plan, which aims to eliminate most wastes and toxics and to safely manage what remains.

Application Timeline

- Applications will be accepted starting in mid-April and will remain open at least one month.
- Awards will be announced no later than June 30th, 2023
- Projects will launch as early as July 1st, 2023

Information Sessions

- [March 15, 2023, 5:00 – 6:30 pm](#)¹
- [April 6, 2023, 9:00 – 10:30 am](#)²



How to Apply

Applicants must create a Secure Access Washington Account and receive an Ecology approved registration for an Ecology Administration of Grants (EAGL) and Loans account to apply. **Application packages must be submitted electronically through EAGL no later than 5:00 pm PST on April 5th, 2023.**

Priority Selection

- New Applicants
- Projects that focus on communities that are highly impacted by contamination and waste, and people who are vulnerable to social and environmental risks.
- Projects that engage the public in the cleanup of State and Federally registered contaminated sites

¹ <https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlsc-yorDkvGt0Ysatn3zChFBsN-WCVWg5P>

² <https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqdu2qqjsqG9Kbb38Rc5FXP747XbNLeFVC>

Application Content

Below is an outline of the questions and topics applicants will respond to in the application.

Category 1: Priority Consideration

1. Does your project address the cleanup of a hazardous substance release site?

These sites are listed at the following locations:

- [Confirmed and Suspected³ Contaminated Sites List](#)
- [National Priorities List-WA⁴](#)

2. Does your project focus on a highly impacted community or a vulnerable population?

Highly impacted communities are geographic areas where environmental hazards are located and accumulate, posing risks to the health of human's who live or frequent the area.

Vulnerable populations are subsets of the public who face increased susceptibility to risks based on their social, economic, and racial demographics and physiological sensitivities such as low birth weight.

3. Has your organization been awarded a Public Participation Grant in the last four years?

Category 2: Community Support

1. Is your project's success contingent on a contribution from a project partner?

If so, include a letter of contribution which clearly describes the nature and extent of the contribution with your application. Do not name a procurement contractor as a "partner" in your application unless the contractor has been selected in compliance with competitive procurement requirements.

2. Upload letters of support from community members, local governments, or organizations who support your organization and this project.

Category 3: Managing Grant Funds

For applying organizations:

1. Upload your organization's organization chart.
2. Upload your organization's bylaws.
3. Does your organization's Board of Directors meet at least quarterly?
4. How will your organization ensure grant funds are used timely, accurately, and according to financial management best practices including with professional staff?

For applying individuals:

1. Do you have experience managing grant funds?
2. Will you either use accounting software or contract services from a certified public accountant?

Category 4: Past PPG Performance

Scoring criteria in this category are completed by Ecology's staff based on prior grant records.

³ <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/tcpwebreporting/Default.aspx>

⁴ <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/national-priorities-list-npl-sites-state#WA>

Category 5: Project Budget

Provide a Project Budget for both year 1 and year 2 of the grant. Describe your organization's financial controls and expertise.

Category 6: Project Narrative

1. **Unmet Need:** What is the waste or contamination problem that the project will address? You may include the threat it poses to the environment and human health.
2. **Focus Population:** Describe the population of people who are impacted or engaged by this project.

You may include relevant population demographics and health outcomes, geographic location, community history, or other relevant descriptors of the people and communities whose participation is facilitated through this project. If you are applying for priority consideration as a highly impacted or vulnerable population, describe the unique needs and barriers faced by the population. Use reference data such as the Washington Tracking Network Environmental Health Disparities map.
3. **Community Inclusion and Engagement:** What are your organization's ties to the community groups you propose to engage?

Ties can include how representatives of the focus population are involved in planning, leading, and implementing the project or experience with the waste problem. Reference your application's letters of support or contribution to demonstrate community inclusion.
4. **Project Description:** What activities do you propose to include in the project? What planning was completed to ensure the project is well thought out? What are the project's measurable outputs, which quantify the work?

If you included letters of commitment, describe how these partners are involved to implement the project effectively. You may include a logic model or theory of change to show how your project addresses the problem.
5. **Project Deliverables:** When will the project deliverables be complete?
6. **Project Goals:** What measurable outcome/s and long-term goals do you hope to achieve with this project? Include environmental benefits and as applicable, measures of human health and wellbeing.

Outcomes are the measurable environmental change or impact that results from the project activities. The project's goal is the overarching future vision that the project realizes.



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To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6000, by email at SWMpublications@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-634